

Modoc County

2008 WMA Base Funding Work Plan

Member of the Modoc Weed Management Area

Noxious Weed Aerial Treatment Project ***January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009***

Project Contact Lead (name, phone number, and address):

Joe Moreo, 202 West 4th Street, Alturas, CA 96101 530-233-6401 ag_commissioner@modoccounty.us

Contract Lead Person (name, phone number, and address):

Susan Philpott, 202 West 4th Street, Alturas, CA 96101 530-233-6401

Project Goal:

To control scotch thistle and other noxious weeds throughout the Modoc Weed Management Area region.

WMA Group Affiliations:

Project partners include:

Bonneville Power Administration

Tusacacora Pipeline

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Beatty and Associates (Private Timber Manager)

Bureau of Land Management

Numerous Private Ranches and Landowners

Project Objectives and Methods:

The Modoc County Agriculture Department will contract with an aerial applicator (helicopter) for treating scotch thistle and other A-rated weeds. The Modoc Agriculture Department will supply personnel to assist in aerial treatment. The helicopter(s) will perform treatments over most of the privately owned ground and certain Agencies (BLM, Utilities, et cetera) in Modoc County during the month of June when the weeds are in the proper stage for aerial treatment. Additionally, the Modoc Agriculture Department in conjunction with the California Department of Food and Agriculture employs two full time positions (Ag Biologist and Mechanic) and up to ten seasonal employees from May through September to follow up with ground treatments for escapes and weed infestations not conducive to aerial treatment.

Equipment:

Modoc County Weed Management Group has supported the Modoc County Agriculture Departments noxious weed control program since its formation in 1998. Recognizing the experience, (more than 50 years) commitment (over \$300,000 annual budget) and sheer size (8 full time 4 wheel drive pickup spray rigs, 2 roadside spray trucks and 7 quad runner spray rigs and trailers. The Modoc WMG typically relies upon the Agriculture Departments abilities for noxious weed control projects in Modoc County.

Reporting:

A project report will be submitted at the completion of the contract and will include the following information: net acres or number of plants treated if less than 100 plants, gross area surveyed, control tool utilized, % change (reduction) between visits, graphs showing differences in acres treated between years for each species addressed, and photographs.